

surrounding municipalities would carry much weight. Dacey suggested the opponents explore the law governing IRA and Part 151 as a basis for denial.

According to Dacey, after the meeting ended and all others had left the room, Dacey wordlessly handed a newspaper article to Anderson that discussed rumors of organized crime ties to Delaware North, and an Arizona connection between that company and Secretary Babbitt while he was governor. Dacey recalls that when he saw Anderson at a function at the National Press Club that evening, Anderson expressed anger at Dacey's suggestion that anything but the merits would determine the decision. Anderson told Dacey that was not the way the Interior Department did things, and they would "try to thread the needle" on this application.³⁶² Dacey understood Anderson to mean that DOI would seek to reach a fair resolution on a difficult decision. Dacey explained to investigators that he told Anderson the reason for giving the article was concern that the process not be corrupted by an alleged personal relationship between people associated with Delaware North and the Secretary (based on the erroneous belief that Delaware North owned the Hudson dog track).

Anderson's recollection of the contact with Dacey is slightly different. Although Anderson conceded his recollection was influenced by his having read Dacey's memo of the meeting, and Anderson himself kept no notes or summary of the meeting, he said he recalls he was "tough" on the Oneidas, asking them why they were interfering in the sovereignty of other tribes.³⁶³ He said Hartman did a lot of the talking in the meeting, expressing his view of "detriment" as not ensuring a lack of competition between tribes. Anderson did not contradict

³⁶²OIC Interview of Scott Dacey, Oct. 9, 1998, at 5.

³⁶³OIC Interview of Michael Anderson, Dec. 8, 1998, at 5.